

HA-793

c. 1835

POPLAR HOUSE

Havre de Grace, Md.

The Poplar House is one of a very few brick houses built in the Federal style remaining in Havre de Grace. It is a two and a half story, three bay, yellow stuccoed building, now in poor condition and used as an antique and junk store with apartments above. None of the original woodwork or trim remains on the first floor, even the fireplace and stairs having been removed. In building type it is closely related to the Elizabeth Rodgers House, an earlier building (c. 1788), which is less than a block away.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Poplar House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

308 St. John St.

CITY, TOWN

Havre de Grace

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

6

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Harford

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT☐ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☒ SITE☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☒ YES: RESTRICTED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☐ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE☒ COMMERCIAL☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ GOVERNMENT☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ MILITARY☐ MUSEUM☐ PARK☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ RELIGIOUS☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ OTHER
rental**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Carlton Rigler

Telephone #: 939-2739

STREET & NUMBER

Martin Road & Barrett St.

CITY, TOWN

Havre de Grace

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Md. 2078

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTIONCOURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Harford County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

Main St.

CITY, TOWN

Bel Air,

STATE

Md.

Liber #: 843

Folio #: 459

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

HA-793

CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT
☐ GOOD
☐ FAIR

☒ DETERIORATED
☐ RUINS
☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED
☒ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Poplar House is a two-and-a-half story, three bay Federal (c. 1835) townhouse of brick covered with yellow stucco. The building, in very poor condition, is used as a antique and junk store, with apartments above. Facing east on St. John St., the building is on a lot which is wider than it is deep, which perhaps accounts for the northwest slant of the north wall which gives to the structure the shape of a trapezoid. On the north side of the rear (west elevation) is a two story brick shed roof addition with a two story, three bay, porch under the overhanging shed of the roof on the south elevation.

It appears that the building was not originally faced with stucco because there is a bare, common bond wall of brick where the enclosed stairs join the building on the south wall. A high stone foundation is also evident on part of the south wall.

The first floor fenestration has been completely altered by the addition of a plate glass window and the enlargement of the door opening. On the second floor, facade, the windows have 6/6 light, double hung sash with wide, molded jambs and narrow, wooden sills; most of the windows on the wing are the same. The house has two dormer windows; the one on the front has an arched upper sash, pilasters and a segmental pediment while the one on the rear is similar with a triangular pediment. The flanks of the main block are blind with the exception of an attic window with 6/6 light double hung sash, in the south gable end.

The entrance in the north bay of the facade has been altered; presently it contains a glass paneled door with a large single light transom above it.

The main block has a gable flank roof covered with asphalt tiles and a large, multi-flue chimney rising from the north wall. A narrow, molded box cornice with a fascia board beneath it is present on the facade. An exterior, cinder block chimney is on the west wall of the shed addition.

None of the original wood work or trim remain on the first floor, even the fireplace and stairs have been removed.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
				local history	

SPECIFIC DATES

c. 1835

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Poplar House is one of a very few brick houses built in the Federal style remaining in Havre de Grace. In building type it is closely related to the Colonel John Rodgers House an earlier building (c. 1790), less than a block away from it. Both have a two-thirds Georgian plan.

George Bartol, a town commissioner for many years, bought the land from William B. Stokes in 1830. William Poplar bought the property from Bartol in 1835 and sold it four years after he received it for the price he paid for it. Therefore, it may be conjectured that the present house was built during the years of Poplar ownership (1835-1839), although it may have been built earlier.

This building with its pleasing size, scale and dormer detail could be a tremendous addition to the appearance of St. John St. and the Central Business District as a whole. It is through preservation of such buildings as the Poplar House - a block from the Susquehanna River - that we are reminded of Havre de Grace as a port with schooners and steamboats tied up at the town wharf just before the advent of the railroad and canal.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Marion Morton, Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Historical Trust

STREET & NUMBER

21 State Circle

CITY OR TOWN

Annapolis

DATE

1/26/77

TELEPHONE

STATE

Md.

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

LAND RECORDS

POPLAR HOUSE

GRG 843 459 May 1, 1970
Grantor: William P. Murphy
Grantees: Carlton H. Rigler and Nettie E. Rigler
lot 82

GRG 601 549 Sept. 28, 1962
Grantor: G. Howlett Cobourn, attorney, et al
Grantees: William P. Murphy and Sarah C. Murphy

GCB 300 153 October 28, 1946
Grantor: M. Edith Drennan
Grantees: Joseph R. August and Mary E. August
\$10,000.00

DWG 216 535 December 5, 1930
Grantor: Susie G. Ganbin
Grantees: M. Edith Drennan and Charles S. Drennan

ALJ 60 232 September 10, 1839
Grantor: William B. Poplar and wife
Grantee: Aquila Bailey
\$187.50

HD 19 23 Sept. 8, 1835
Grantor: George Bartol and Sarah Bartol
Grantee: William Poplar
\$90.00

HD 17 224 November 13, 1830
Grantor: William B. Stokes
Grantee: George Bartol
\$100.00

Title Search by
Gary Pensell



HAVRE DE GRACE, MD.

SE/4 HAVRE DE GRACE 15' QUADRANGLE
N3930—W7600/7.5

1953

PHOTOREVISED 1970
AMS 5763 II SE—SERIES V833



HA-793

POPLAR HOUSE

308 St. John St.

Havre de Grace

southeast elev.

Marion Morton August, 76

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HA-793

POPLAR HOUSE
308 St. John St.
Havre de Grace
northeast elev.
Marion Morton

August, 1976

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